UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRIGGENHEIRERStein U8 CIV 6288 THE NEW YORK CITY DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS PENSION FUND, NEW YORK CITY DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS WELFARE FUND, NEW YORK CITY DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS VACATION FUND, NEW YORK CITY 08 CV DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS ANNUITY FUND, NEW YORK CITY DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS APPRENTICESHIP, JOURNEYMAN **COMPLAINT** RETRAINING, EDUCATIONAL AND INDUSTRY FUND, NEW YORK CITY DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS CHARITY FUND, UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS OF AMERICA FUND and THE NEW YORK CITY AND VICINITY CARPENTER! LABOR-MANAGEMENT CORPORATION, by MICHAELS. J. FORDE, and PAUL O'BRIEN, as TRUSTEES, and MICHAEL J. FORDE, as EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER, DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR NEW YORK CITY AND VICINITY, UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS OF AMERICA,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

EAST COAST VOICE & DATA, INC. D/B/A EAST COAST RELOCATION,

Defendant.

Plaintiffs ("Benefit Funds"), by their attorneys O'Dwyer & Bernstien, LLP, for their Complaint allege as follows:

NATURE OF THE CASE

1. This is an action to confirm and enforce an Arbitrator's Award rendered pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement ("Agreement") between The District Council of New York City and Vicinity of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America ("Union") and

East Coast Voice & Data, Inc. d/b/a East Coast Relocation ("Employer").

JURISDICTION

- 2. This Court has jurisdiction over this proceeding pursuant to section 301 of the Labor Management Relations Act ("LMRA"), 29 U.S.C. §185, sections 502(a)(3)(B)(ii), (d)(1), (e) and (g) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act ("ERISA"), 29 U.S.C. §\$1132(a)(3)(B)(ii), (d)(1), (e) and (g), section 515 of ERISA, 29 U.S.C. §1145, and section 9 of the Federal Arbitration Act, 9 U.S.C. §9.
- 3. Personal jurisdiction is based upon Section 502(e)(2) of ERISA, 29 U.S.C. §1132(e)(2).

VENUE

4. Venue is proper in this district in that Plaintiffs' offices are located in this district.

PARTIES

- 5. At all times relevant herein the Plaintiffs were jointly administered, multiemployer, Taft-Hartley Benefit Funds administered by trustees designated by a union and by employers, established and maintained pursuant to section 302(c)(5) of the LMRA, 29 U.S.C. §186(c)(5). Plaintiffs Forde and O'Brien are fiduciaries of the Benefit Funds within the meaning of ERISA sections 3(21) and 502, 29 U.S.C. §§1002(21) and 1132.
- 6. The Benefit Funds are employee benefit plans within the meaning of sections 3(1) and (3) of ERISA, 29 U.S.C. §1002(1) and (3) and are maintained for the purposes of providing health, medical and related welfare benefits, pension and other benefits to eligible participants and beneficiaries on whose behalf they receive contributions from numerous employers pursuant to collective bargaining agreements between the employers and the Union.
 - 7. Upon information and belief defendant is a foreign corporation incorporated

Page 3 of 10

under laws of the State of New Jersey with a principal place of business located at 26 Madison Road, Fairfield, NJ 07004.

8. The defendant is an employer within the meaning of section 3(5) of ERISA, 29 U.S.C. §1002 (5).

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

- 9. Defendant was bound at all relevant times by a collective bargaining agreement with the Union, which, by its terms, became effective July 1, 2001. Said Agreement provides, inter alia, that the defendant shall furnish its books and payroll records when requested by the Benefit Funds for the purpose of conducting an audit to ensure compliance with required benefit fund contributions and for the submission of disputes to final, binding arbitration.
- 10. A dispute arose during the period of the Agreement between the parties when the Employer failed to comply with the Benefit Funds' demands to furnish its books and records for the purpose of conducting an audit.
- 11. Pursuant to the arbitration clause in the Agreement, the dispute was submitted to arbitration to Robert Herzog, the duly designated impartial arbitrator.
- 12. Thereafter, upon due notice to all parties, the arbitrator duly held a hearing and rendered his award, in writing, dated February 21, 2008 determining said dispute. Upon information and belief, a copy of the award was delivered to the defendant (A copy of the award is annexed hereto as Exhibit "A" and made part hereof).
- The arbitrator found that defendant had failed to comply with the Agreement as it 13. relates to paying fringe benefit monies and directed it to furnish the Plaintiffs with any and all books and records, for the period of July 30, 2005 through February 21, 2008 including but not limited to, the cash disbursement section of the cash book, general ledger, job location records,

daily time records and all certified payrolls.

- 14. The arbitrator also found that defendant was required to pay the funds a sum of \$2,350.00 pursuant to the Agreement, representing costs incurred in the arbitration.
 - 15. The defendant has failed to abide by the award.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs demand judgment against defendant as follows:

- 1. For an order confirming the arbitration award in all respects;
- 2. For entry of judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs ordering defendant and its officers to make available to the Plaintiffs or authorized representatives any and all books and records deemed necessary to conduct an audit including, but not limited to, the cash disbursement section of the cash book, general ledger, job location records, daily time records and all certified payrolls for the period July 30, 2005 through February 21, 2008.
- 3. For entry of judgment in favor of the Benefit Funds and against East Coast Voice & Data, Inc. d/b/a East Coast Relocation ordering defendant to pay the Benefit Funds a total sum of \$2,350.00 with interest to accrue at the rate of 10% from the date of the award, pursuant to the arbitrator's award.
 - 4. For attorneys' fees and costs of this action;

5. For such other and further relief as this count may deem just and proper.

Dated: New York, New York July 8, 2008

ANDREW/GRABOIS (AG 3192)

O'Dwyer & Bernstien, LLP

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

52 Duane Street

New York, NY 10007

(212) 571-7100

EXHIBIT A

OFFICE OF THE IMPARTIAL ARBITRATOR

ORIGINAL

In The Matter Of The Arbitration

between

New York City District Council of Carpenters
Pension Fund, New York City District Council of
Carpenters Welfare Fund, New York City
District Council of Carpenters Vacation Fund,
New York City District Council of Carpenters
Annuity Fund, New York City District Council
of Carpenters Apprenticeship, Journeyman
Retraining, Educational and Industry Fund,
New York City District Council of Carpenters
Charity Fund, United Brotherhood of Carpenters
and Joiners of America Fund and The New York
City and Vicinity Carpenters Labor-Management
Corporation, by Michael J. Forde and Paul
O'Brien, as Trustees

And

Michael J. Forde, as Executive Secretary-Treasurer, District Council for New York City and Vicinity, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America

(Petitioners)

-and-

EAST COAST VOICE & DATA INC.
D/B/A EAST COAST RELOCATION
(Employer)

BEFORE: Robert Herzog, Esq.

East Coast Voice & Data Inc. d/b/a East Coast Relocation

(hereinafter referred to as the "Employer") and the District Council

of New York City and Vicinity of the United Brotherhood of

Carpenters and Joiners of America, are parties to a Collective

Bargaining Agreement, dated July 01, 2001. Article XIX of the

Collective Bargaining Agreement provides that the Collective

DEFAULT

AWARD

Bargaining Agreement "shall continue until June 30, 2006 and shall be renewed automatically for one year intervals thereafter unless notice to the other... no more than ninety (90) days nor less than sixty (60) days before the contract expiration that such party seeks to negotiate a new contract or modify or amend this Agreement through negotiations." The Collective Bargaining Agreement also provides for arbitration of disputes before the undersigned Arbitrator as Impartial Arbitrator, and in which the Employer has therein agreed, for the duration of the agreement and renewals, to pay contributions toward employee benefit funds (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Funds"). The Petitioners, as beneficiaries of the Collective Bargaining Agreement and renewals, have standing before the Arbitrator. In accordance therewith, the Petitioners, by a December 5, 2007 Notice of Intention to Arbitrate, The Petitioners alleged the Employer failed demanded arbitration. to permit the Funds to conduct an audit of its books and records for the period of July 30, 2005 through to date to determine whether it is in compliance with its obligation to contribute to the Funds. A Notice of Hearing dated January 30, 2008 advised the Employer and the Petitioners that the arbitration hearing was scheduled for February 19, 2008.

The Notice of Hearing was sent to the Employer by regular and certified mail. Both the regular mail copy and the certified mail copy of the Notice of Hearing were not returned as undeliverable,

but were returned marked "refused." United States Postal Service records indicate that both the regular and certified mail copies of the Notice of Hearing were refused by the Employer. The Employer is deemed to have received the Notice of Hearing based on the Employer's voluntary act of refusing the regular and certified mail copies.

On February 19, 2008, at the place and time designated by the aforesaid Notice of Hearing, Steven Kasarda, Esq. appeared on behalf of the Petitioners. No appearance on behalf of the Employer was made. Also, no written, mutually agreed upon waiver by the parties to adjourn the proceeding, as required by the Collective Bargaining Agreement and renewals, was presented. The arbitration proceeded as a Default Hearing. Full opportunity was afforded the parties present to be heard, to offer evidence, and to examine witnesses. The Petitioners thereupon presented their proofs to the Arbitrator.

The uncontroverted testimony and evidence established that:

- During the July 30, 2005 to date period, the Employer was bound to
 a Collective Bargaining Agreement and subsequent renewals with the
 District Council of New York City and Vicinity of the United
 Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.
- The Collective Bargaining Agreement and renewals obligated the Employer to make certain payments to Fringe Benefit Trust Funds on behalf of all its carpenter employees pursuant to schedules set forth in the Agreement and renewals.

- The Collective Bargaining Agreement and renewals authorized the Funds to conduct an audit of the Employer's books and records in order to verify that all the required contributions were made to each of the aforesaid Fringe Benefit Trust Funds maintained by the Funds.
- In accordance with this auditing provision, an accountant, employed by the Funds, sought to conduct an audit of the Employer's books and records. In violation of this auditing provision, the Employer did not consent to an audit of the Employer's books and records.

AWARD

Based upon the substantial and credible evidence of the case as a whole:

- 1. East Coast Voice & Data Inc. d/b/a East Coast Relocation is in violation of the terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreement and renewals;
- 2. East Coast Voice & Data Inc. d/b/a East Coast Relocation is ordered to permit and facilitate the Funds conducting an audit of its books and records for the period of July 30, 2005 through to date to determine whether it is in compliance with its obligations to contribute to the Funds;
- 3. East Coast Voice & Data Inc. d/b/a East Coast Relocation shall pay to the Funds forthwith the Petitioners' counsel's fees, the

undersigned Arbitrator's fee, and all associated court costs in the following amounts:

Court Costs	\$ 350.00
Attorney's Fee	1,500.00
Arbitrator's Fee	500.00
TOTAL	\$2,350.00

4. East Coast Voice & Data Inc. d/b/a East Coast Relocation shall pay to the District Council Carpenters Benefit Funds the aggregate amount of two thousand three hundred fifty dollars (\$2,350.00) with interest to accrue at the rate of 10% from the date of this Award.

Dated: February 21, 2008

cate of New York)

State of New York) County of Rockland)

I, Robert Herzog, do hereby affirm upon my oath as Arbitrator that I am the individual described in and who executed this instrument, which is my Award.

Dated: February 21, 2008

Robert Herzo Arbitrator

Arbitrator

To: East Coast Voice & Data Inc. d/b/a East Coast Relocation Attn: Mr. John Stuno, President 26 Madison Road Fairfield, New Jersey 07004

Steven Kasarda, Esq.
New York City District Council Carpenters Benefit Funds
395 Hudson Street
New York, New York 10014